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MR. HARNEY: My name is Corbin Harney. I am a Western Shoshone from Nevada. This is where we are going to -- going to be storing the nuclear waste.

1 As an Indian people throughout this country, we have survived on this mother earth for thousands and thousands of years before your people ever came into this part of the continent. We are concerned about the mother earth, we are concerned about our water, we are concerned about all the animal life that we survive on for thousands of years, and the birds and so forth.

Since the Indians moved into the Nevada Test Site in 1943 and '48 when they established that for military use, there's many, many of my people have died from cancer. I have witnessed many, many people. And today I got documents to show throughout the country, where people from Utah -- what they call "Downwinders" -- suffered and died. This is what is happening with our Nuclear Energy Department, as we call it. Nuclear testing.

Now we are more dangerous than ever. Today we are going to have to deal with the nuclear waste. It's not only going to affect the Indian people; it's going to affect each and every one of us. County lines don't mean anything; state lines don't mean nothing. It's going to affect the life of all of the living things.

We have seen those things happen throughout the country. We cannot -- I cannot, my people cannot believe the Nuclear Energy Department is telling us the truth.

[APPLAUSE.]

2 MR. HARNEY: It's really important for you people -- you are the people that's going to be affected by it, your grandchildren, and so forth down the line. They are the ones that's going to be living here on this mother earth. We are not appreciating our mother earth; we are trying to destroy it today. Tomorrow we might not have a mother earth to give us water, the food that we survive on, the luxuries that we have. Those are the reasons why I want to ask the DOE people, I hope that Congress would really look at this issue and extend this hearing more than what they are doing.

We all have to have the same words. Extend this until May at least, because today, in very short time -- the 28th is coming up fast for you people. If we don't unite ourselves together, where are we going? Where is a safe place to go without radiation? Radiation is throughout the world today. More and more people today are coming up and saying, "I never heard of these discussions about the nuclear waste that's been discussed by the DOE." Never have done -- we are doing it here, but my people always say today: Let's unite the people.

I don't care what color you are; you are going to be affected by it because you got red blood like I do. Today, I'm going to present a piece of paper asking the DOE, the Congress, to extend this until May, so that way we can have more hearings throughout the country -- not only in selected areas. Let's go to the reservations. Today the DOE have never came to our reservations, never confronted us -- and today telling you we have talked to the Indian people. I went to the country, to my people, asking them did the DOE ever confront you people? They said no. Just a very few, seven, to tell you the truth -- seven people, that they have -- be a prophet for them, I guess.

This is what I am asking you people today. You are here; I like to hear your voice; I like to see you stand up together as a people on this mother earth. So that way we will have a cleaner water for the younger generation. If we don't, where are we going?

3... Today our roads and highways is not safe to be delivering nuclear waste throughout the country. This is something that you people have to really think about.

3 cont. I really appreciate each and every one of you telling the DOE that [we should do something else with it, instead of putting it on the railroad and hauling it on the trucks.]

Today, I hope that you people would have your voice heard. This is a chance that we have, and this is a chance we might only have. We don't know whether they are telling us the truth in taking it to Congress or not. I would like to see that the people talk to us, not the people hired by somebody else.

I know the DOE people is hired by their own company. And today, I am going to present this letter to Ms. Wendy Dixon, and I am going to put this in the papers (indicating). I hope that we do -- I hope that this manager would relook at this and say that she's the only one that we can rely on. I hope she does, that she has a softer heart and says let's do what we got to do, extend it longer than what it is. Thank you.

[APPLAUSE.]

FACILITATOR HOLMES: Our next speaker is Marjorie Mikels, to be followed by Bob Jefferson. Again, I will encourage people to stick to the five-minute rule. We have actually had six more people sign up to speak.

Thank you. Marjorie Mikels?